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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

The promise of the AT&T break-up was to empower consumers through greater choice. Competition stimulates innovation, and without innovation, the American telecommunications industry will quickly be overtaken by foreign competitors.

Right now, the choices offered to US consumers for Internet connectivity are a bit impoverished. There are a few giants, and in some lucky cases, a few smaller, more innovative players. Please support choice in to promote small businesses and to pressure the larger players to offer more reasonable rates and better customer service. Internet connectivity is furthermore a critical infrastructure for societal and economic well-being, and having a diversity of providers make our system more robust to failure or even attack.

Thanks for consideration,

Alison Chaiken